EBRU EVCEN

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EDUCATION

University of California San Diego, San Diego, United States   2020 - 2026 (expected)
Ph.D. in Linguistics
Committee: David Barner, Caren Walker, Ivano Caponigro, Leon Bergen

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey   2016-2019
M.A. in English Language Teaching
Thesis title: Processing of Conditional Constructions in Turkish L2 speakers of English

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey   2012-2016
B.A. in English Language Teaching

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (under review). Conditional reasoning in children: The role of context and alternatives.

Sarısoy, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (under review). Referential form, word order, and implicit causality in Turkish emotion verbs.

Evcen, E., Bale, A. & Barner, D. (under review). Conditional inference and access to alternatives: The role of QUD and speaker knowledge in conditional perfection.

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2025). Already perfect: Language users access the pragmatic meanings of conditionals first. *Open Mind, 9*, 1098–1120.

Yeter, Ö., **Evcen, E.**, Rabagliati, H. & Özge, D. (2024). Understanding cognitive and language development in refugees: Evidence from displaced Syrian children in Turkey. *Cognitive Development, 69*, 101412.

Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings, Book Chapters

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2025). Preschoolers compute literal and pragmatic meanings of conditionals with contextual support. *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.*

Sarısoy, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2025). Referential form, word order, and implicit causality in Turkish emotion verbs. *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.*

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2024). Two Negatives Make a Positive: Reducing Referential Uncertainty through Negation and Order Reversal Eases Processing in Counterfactuals. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 46.*

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Making the Question Under Discussion explicit shifts counterfactual interpretation. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 44.*

Özge, D. & **Evcen, E.** (2020). Referential form, word order and emotional valence in Turkish pronoun resolution. In U. Özge and D. Zeyrek (eds.), *Turkish Discourse, Structure and Meaning.* Trends in Linguistics Series, De Gruyter Publishing.

PRESENTATIONS

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2025). Preschoolers compute literal and pragmatic meanings of conditionals with contextual support. Poster at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2025), July 2025, San Francisco, CA, United States

Sarısoy, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2025) Referential form, word order, and implicit causality in Turkish emotion verbs. Poster at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2025), July 2025, San Francisco, CA, United States

Evcen, E. Bale, A. & Barner, D. (2025). Which alternatives matter? The role of QUD and speaker knowledge in conditionals. Poster at the 35th Semantic and Linguistic Theory (SALT 35), May 2025, Boston, MA, United States

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2024). Conditionally literal: Exploring conditional reasoning in children. Talk at the 49th Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD 49), November 2024, Boston, MA, United States

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Two negatives make a positive: Reducing referential uncertainity through negation and order reversal eases processing in counterfactuals. Virtual poster at the 46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2024), July, 2024, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2024). Already Perfect: Conditional Statements. Poster at Experiments in Linguistics Meaning 3 (ELM 3), June 2024, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, United States

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2024). Conditional inferences are derived without delay. Poster at the 6th California Meeting on Psycholinguistics (CAMP 6), January 2024, Stanford University, CA, United States

Evcen, E. & Barner, D. (2023). Time course of conditional inferences. Poster at the 10th biennial meeting of Experimental Pragmatics (XPRAG 10), September 2023, Université Paris Cité – CNRS, Paris, France

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Negation facilitates comprehension of English counterfactuals. Short talk at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP 28), September, 2022, University of York, United Kingdom.

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2022). Making the Question Under Discussion explicit shifts counterfactual interpretation. Short talk at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci 2022), July, 2022, Toronto, Canada.

Evcen, E. & Özge, D. (2022). Pronoun resolution in Turkish Transfer-of-possession verbs: Evidence from comprehension and production. Talk at the 3rd Cologne Ankara Discourse Meeting (CADiM3), July 2022, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2022). Implicit causality biases in Turkish psychological state events. Talk at the 3rd International Conference on Prominence in Language (ICPL3), June, 2022, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

Evcen, E. & Wittenberg, E. (2021). The Consideration of Alternatives During Incremental Comprehension of Counterfactuals. Short talk at Architectures and Mechanisms for Language Processing (AMLaP 27), September, 2021, Université de Paris, France.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.** & Hartshorne, J. (2020). Referential form, word order and emotional valence in Turkish pronoun resolution. Poster at the 33rd Annual CUNY Human Sentence Processing Conference (CUNY), March, 2020, University of Massachusets, Amherst, United States

Evcen, E., Özge, U. & Özge, D. (2019). Turkish *unless* is not biconditional unless the pragmatic context allows it. Poster at the 8th Experimental Pragmatics Conference (XPRAG), June 2019, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.**, Kesici, A. & Köse, E. (2018). How do Turkish speakers interpret pronouns in Transfer-of-Possesion contexts? Talk at the 14th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL14), October, 2018, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA.

Özge, D., **Evcen, E.**, Kesici, A. & Köse, E. (2018). How do Turkish speakers interpret pronouns in Transfer-of-Possesion contexts? Talk at the 2nd International Conference on Prominence in Language (ICPL2), July, 2018, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany.

TEACHING

Graduate Teaching Consultant   Summer 2024 - Present
Engaged Teaching Hub, Teaching & Learning Commons, UC San Diego

Introduction to College Teaching: Foundations of Equitable Teaching (Fall 2024,
Winter 2025, Fall 2025)
Communication for Teaching (Spring 2025)

Instructor of Record   Summer 2024
Department of Linguistics, UC San Diego

LIGN 170: Psycholinguistics: Experimental Approaches to Language and Cognition

Graduate Teaching Assistant   2020 - 2024
Department of Linguistics, UC San Diego

LIGN 130: Semantics (Spring 2024) (2 sections)
LIGN 121: Syntax I (Winter 2024) (2 sections)
LIGN 101: Introduction to Linguistics (Winter 2020; Fall 2021; Spring 2021;
Fall 2022; Winter 2022; Spring 2022; Fall 2023) (2 sections)
LIGN 8: Languages and Cultures of America (Fall 2020; Winter 2021)

Mentorship
UC San Diego

Kayla Moreno (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Summer 2025 - Present
Grace Carlson (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2025 - Present
Jessica Nieblas (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Summer 2024 - Spring 2025
Raphael Dupa (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Spring 2024 - Spring 2025
Katherine Jamison (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2023 - Spring 2025
Victoria Hilke (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Summer 2024
Vaidehi Bhavaraju (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2023 - Spring 2024
Maansi Narain (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2023 - Spring 2024
Priscilla Lin (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2023 - Winter 2024
Ajax Asana (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Spring 2022 - Fall 2023
Piper Mahn (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Summer 2023
Miguel Mejia (Postbac Research Assistant)	Fall 2020 - Spring 2021
Lea Zaric (Undergraduate Research Assistant)	Fall 2020 - Spring 2021

Language Instructor   2016 - 2020
Department of Foreign Languages, TOBB University of Economics and Technology

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Grants

Academic Senate General Campus Research Grant, UC San Diego — March 2023
The Nature of Conditional Inferences (PI: David Barner) — ($12000)

Fellowships

Anti-racist and Inclusive Pedagogy Fellowship, UC San Diego ($500) — Summer 2024
Summer Graduate Teaching Scholars Fellowship, UC San Diego ($500) — Summer 2024

Awards

Distinguisted Achievement in Service, Linguistics Department, UC San Diego — 2025
GPSA Travel Award, UC San Diego ($300) — September 2023
Linguistics Department Travel Award, UC San Diego ($750) — Summer 2023
TA Excellence Award, Linguistics Department, UC San Diego — 2023

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Language and Development Lab — 2021 - Present
UC San Diego
PI: David Barner, Department of Psychology

Language Comprehension Lab — 2020 - 2022
Formerly at UC San Diego, now at Central European University
PI: Eva Wittenberg, Department of Cognitive Science

SFB 1252 Prominence in Language — June - July 2022
University of Cologne
PI: Klaus von Heusinger, Department of Linguistics
Guest in C04 - Conceptual and referential activation in discourse

Language and Cognitive Development Lab — 2017 - 2019
Middle East Technical University
PI: Duygu Ozge, Department of English Language Teaching

Language and Communication Development Lab — June- August 2016
Koc University
PI: Aylin Kuntay, Department of Psychology
Summer Undergraduate Research Program (KUSRP)

SUMMER SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATION

Student-Centered College Teaching & Course Design — March 2024
UC San Diego

Seventh Summer School on Statistical Methods for Linguistics and Psychology, Potsdam, Germany — September 2023
Advanced methods in frequentist statistics with Julia

Göttingen Fall School in Linguistics: Anaphora and Presuppositions — August 2021
University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany

Study Abroad, Keele University, Staffordshire, United Kingdom — January-June 2015
TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Languages:	Turkish (native), English (bilingual fluency), Southern Uzbek (fieldwork)
Technical skills:	R/RStudio (advanced modeling, data visualization), Praat, LaTeX, GitHub, PCIbex
Research areas:	Psycholinguistics, experimental semantics and pragmatics, quantitative methods